

U.S.S.N. 09/479,467
STERNBERG *et al.*
Preliminary Amendment

at page 56, line 31, please replace "neurons" with —neurons—;

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add claim 89 as follows:

92 ~~—89.~~ An isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim ~~31~~ comprising a sequence of nucleotides that encodes the sequence of amino acids set forth in SEQ ID No. 16.—

Please amend claims 80, 81 and 82 as follows:

83 ~~80.~~ (Amended) The method of claim [76] ~~79~~ ⁸², wherein the genes or mutations are genetic suppressors of *lov-1* or *pkd-2* mutants.

82 ~~84~~ ~~81.~~ (Amended) The method of claim [76] ~~79~~ ⁸², wherein the mutant nematodes comprise males that are *lov-1* mutants.

85 ~~82.~~ (Amended) The method of claim [76] ~~79~~ ⁸², wherein the mutant nematodes comprise males that are *pkd-2* mutants.

REMARKS

A check for the fee for excess claims accompanies this response. Any fees that may be due in connection with this application during its pendency may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1213.

The amendments to the specification correct obvious typographical errors and grammatical clarity.

The addition of claim 89 finds basis in the specification of this application as originally filed. For example, basis may be found at page 9, lines 12-23, the description of figure 4 on page 12, the section on "Knockout mutation of *pkd-2*" on page 38, in Example 1 on page 53 and Sequence ID No. 16.

The amendments to claims 80, 81 and 82 correct improper claim dependency. Claim 79 provides the antecedent basis for identifying genes and mutations of claims 80, 81, and 82. Basis is also provided in the description, for example, on page 4, lines 24-29, page 5, lines 1-14 and page 46, lines 1-24, where the role of the *lov-1* and *pkd-2* gene in the pathway affecting



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